

Lack of insurance coverage is unjust

Hearing loss affects almost one in 10 Americans. Untreated hearing loss affects quality of life, safety on the road, performance on the job and income. Most major insurance companies, including Medicare, do not cover hearing aids. Only one in four people with hearing loss uses hearing aids. People with untreated hearing loss cite the cost of hearing aids as the No. 1 reason they have not sought help.

As an audiologist in Oshkosh, I am passionate about helping people with hearing loss. I have trouble understanding how we can allow all kinds of tax deductions, tax credits, etc., but not for a hearing aid.

This is not a luxury item but something most users need to communicate on or off the job, to be a safer driver and to stay in touch with family and friends. The proposed Hearing Aid Tax Credit Act (www.hearingaidtaxcredit.org) would help many. This act supports legislation that provides up to a \$1,000 tax credit for two hearing aids, and it deserves our support.

Juliette Sterkens
Oshkosh

